REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 10-19 are pending in the present application. Claims 10 and 11 have been amended by the present amendment without introducing new matter.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 11-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; and Claims 10 and 17-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Laumen et al. (U.S. Patent 6,396,423, herein "Laumen").

With regard to the rejection of Claims 11-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, Claim 11 has been amended to clarify the subject matter recited therein. In particular, the rejected term "a useful information item" has been changed to "data including a sequence of at least one bit" to clarify the structure thereof, and finds support at page 13, line 29 to, page 14, line 1 of the specification, for example. Further, with regard to "[H]ow to use this claimed "useful information item" ...," and "[W]hat algorithm was used ...," the amendments to Claim 11 are believed to address these questions. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 10 has been amended, and finds support at page 13, line 22 to, page 15, line 6 of the specification, for example. No new matter is added.

Claims 10 and 17-19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Laumen. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Amended Claim 10 is directed to a digital transmission method of an error correction coding that includes, *inter alia*, selecting dynamically, as a function of a dynamic parameter, a distribution of elementary coding step redundancies from distributions of elementary coding step redundancies for which a global efficiency of a coding scheme resulting from a serial concatenation of an elementary coding step is equal to a predetermined target

efficiency. The predetermined target efficiency is determined by a product of efficiencies of at least two elementary coding steps modified by corresponding puncturing steps.

By providing such digital transmission method, it is possible to maintain an optimal performance, namely a constant efficiency, under different transmission conditions (see the specification, page 8, lines 25-27, and page 12, lines 17-28, for example).

Laumen discloses a fine adjustment 13 that performs a bit-precise adjustment of a data rate to the data rate of a transmission channel 15 (see column 4, lines 8-34). As an example, Laumen discloses that the fine adjustment (function block) 13 performs puncturing of bits or adding of extra bits to data 1012 to adjust the data rate of the data 1012 to the data rate of the transmission channel 15 (see column 4, line 64 to, column 5, line 14, and Figure 3). However, Laumen does not disclose or suggest "... selecting dynamically ... a distribution of elementary coding step redundancies from a plurality of distributions of elementary coding step redundancies for which ***a global efficiency of a coding scheme resulting from a serial concatenation of an elementary coding step is equal to a predetermined target efficiency***, said predetermined target efficiency being determined by a product of efficiencies of at least two elementary coding steps modified by corresponding puncturing steps" (emphasis added) as recited in amended Claim 10.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent Claim 10 and each of the claims depending therefrom define over Laumen.

Consequently, in light of the above discussion, and in view of the present amendment, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early action favorable to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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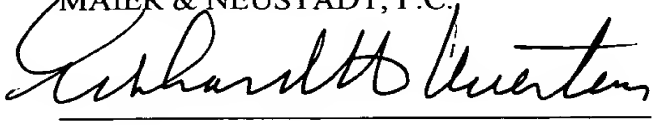

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